The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

June 2011 Volume 7, Issue 06 Copyright RCT

From The Editor...

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Recent discussions at the board meeting have been interesting to say the least! One of the most difficult discussions concerns the club's aging generators. This issue needs to be addressed and because field day is on us, it comes into sharper focus. I am going to quote from an e-mail discussion that I have been having with another club officer since I think it summarizes my take on this pretty well. The text below is only from my side so if there are any comments the should be directed to me…

Quote:
"I also want the club to continue to support both our ability to operate independently of the main electrical system. I thought that the discussion at the meeting was a place to begin consideration of the replacement process.
Let's face it, the existing generators are old and in need of replacement. New generators of the same or higher capacity are both smaller and quieter. Maybe it is time to replace them.

I sometimes don't know where these contentious proposals come from but the property disposal folks did have a point about replacement.

... Having reliable electrical supply is vital to both the "Emcomm" and RCT missions.

I would guess that the primary reason for the RCT's existence is enjoyment of radio. Emergency stuff came later and as an ancillary to the primary mission of enjoying radio for it's own sake. Having had very little in the way of feedback from the membership, we should go ahead and upgrade the HF station, and the support equipment for it which includes but is not limited to, the HF room, the radios in the room, and the support equipment like the generators.

All that stuff is also very important to the secondary mission of emergency support. As Imentioned at the meeting, in the event of a real priority one emergency like Mt. Rainier blowing its top the RCT should be available to support the communications needed. I Think that our various repeaters would be most useful in that application. The repeaters availability presupposes a good power back-up.

Having good reliable generators is only one aspect of the overall problem.

It's a huge problem and only one of the one we face." **End quote**.

Your comments are welcomed… 73 Gary WG7X

The 1 June 2011 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma. President Gary McAdams WG7X called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Officers present were:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President:	Al Churchill AC7BU
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board Member	Frank Palmer AC7JY
Board Member	Alan Lentz W7AML
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 12 names on the attendance roster.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: None reported.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson KD4VOM

Correspondence: Larry reported several new and renewal memberships, phone bill, The State Corporation Renewal, the annual DNR inspection notice for the Crawford Mountain repeater, the annual Advanced Stream broadband internet access bill, and several expense vouchers.

We have also received the initial copies of the QEX and Contest Journal magazines recently subscribed to for the W7DK Library.

> **Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the 4 May meeting as corrected and coordinated.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob AD7LJ

The May financial report was circulated indicating an income of $ 779.74 and expenses of $ 1,226.01. *A copy of the April monthly financial summary is attached to the original copy of these minutes.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Karl Johnson K7KHJ, membership database manager reported the membership is estimated at around 297 with several recent additions. *A copy of Karl's membership summary report is attached to the original copy of these minutes.*

Frank AC7JY reports that most of this year's membership roster booklets and cards have been distributed.

Larry – KD4VOM pointed out that Karl K7KHJ has been a valuable member of the Membership database project, and now the Hamfest database group. In order to facilitate the exchange of mail and information, it would be very helpful if he had access to the club.

> **President Gary WG7X authorized granting security access to the Radio Club of Tacoma for Karl Johnson K7KHJ.**

Property Management: - Frank AC7JY reports several new donations, most of which will likely go to this year's Hamfest Country Store operation.

Frank also announced that coming up soon will be another "Members Only" property auction. It will include equipment that have been coordinated with the club and approved by the Board.

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM reports that Hamfest planning continues on track. Karl Johnson K7JHK is now supporting us with management of the Hamfest database, including preparation of the Hamfest invitation letters and labels. There continues to be a need for someone to help with Vendor registration, preparing reception packets, Staff, Visitor and Vendor badges, etc.

Larry plans to solicit Hamfest volunteer signups at the June 8th general membership meeting.

Repeater Committee: - Alan Lentz W7AML and Nick reported that the Crawford Mountain annual inspection was successfully completed and we are good for another year.

Field Day: - Al Ferguson N7OMS Provided an update on Field Day plans. Field Day is now expecting to have 6 HF and 1 VHF/UHF station operating. The emphasis this year is on getting folks to operate. Charles KA7UAN will again field the GOTA station gear, but a control operator is needed. If you can help, contact Al N7OMS. Nick K7MO will arrange the KLAY interview, and is hoping Ken Gibson will again assist in the interview.

Al N7OMS is seeking someone to write articles for the local newspapers, Tacoma Tribune, The Ranger, etc.

Al N7OMS asked about funding for Field Day Port –a–potties. The Board concurred that this request was covered by the January motion approving normal and regular RCT expenses.

Motion was made seconded and passed to authorize up to $ 250.00 for food operations at field day.

Field day Setup will begin Friday morning moving gear to the Western State Hospital, Steilacoom site and setting up stations, antennas and the kitchen. Stations will provide their own power for this year's Field Day. The Field day new and upgraded ham Field Day invitations prepared by Bob AD7LJ have been mailed.

Library Committee:. Al N7OMS; as mentioned above, the Library is now receiving monthly subscriptions to QEX and Contest Journal Magazines. Al's looking for help finding a way to display some of our magazine collection, a wooden rack type thing.

Museum: No Report

Training: The new **General Class** headed up by Joe K7ZG runs from June 2nd through July 7th once weekly on Thursday evenings from 6 pm to 9pm.
Steve AD7AV is doing a **Technician Class** the weekend of June 11-12.

Jim Kirkreit Picnic Al Churchill AC7BU
Al reports this year's Kirkreit picnic is on track. Bill AC7QI will be setting up the HF 20 meter station and Rich KR7W the Bunny Hunt. Steve Blacksten AD7VL and Al AC7BU have purchased over $ 200.00 worth food and refreshment supplies

Here's the Kirkreit Picnic K7K Special Event Info arranged by Rich KR7W:
Jun 11, 1800Z-2330Z, K7K/W7DK, Tacoma, WA. Radio Club of Tacoma. 14.265 14.055. QSL. Radio Club of Tacoma, W7DK, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Jim Kirkreit Memorial Picnic is held every summer by the Radio Club of Tacoma to honor Jim for his lifetime of promoting Amateur Radio, for being club president many years, and his liking of picnics. This year's special event hopes to honor Jim even more with this special event station set up at the annual picnic. 2011 is also the 95th Anniversary of the Club.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bylaws Revision: Pending; Peter AD7EU asked for mailing addresses so that the proposed Bylaws changes can be sent to the membership when they are ready.

Financial Account Audit: Pending

Annual Budget Planning: Pending

Fund Raising Project/ 95th Anniversary Planning: Al Ferguson N7OMS – Al provided an update on their visit to Joessepi's restaurant. While there it became clear that silent auctioning of donated items seemed the principal money maker, although the Club would see a return on every meal sold if we decide to continue this project. In any event Al has penciled in two October dates for us. The board decided 16 October would be most fitting since it is the 95th Anniversary of the Club.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to form a committee to investigate the celebrating our 95th Anniversary at Joessepi's restaurant.

HF Radio Room Operations: Gary WG7X provided an update on the HF upgrade working group and invited anyone with ideas or inputs to contact him or Al N7OMS.

Silent Key Board: Larry KD4VOM – action pending to draft a Silent Key Board procedure.

NEW BUSINESS:

Power Generators: Frank AC7JY introduced a proposal to dispose of the two World War II vintage club emergency generators. They are aging and also present a safety problem in the garage due to gasoline issues. Most agreed with the idea but some argued that we should maintain an emergency backup power capability. Some wondered how often we use them. Some saw no need for an emergency power backup at the clubhouse.

> **A motion was made, seconded and passed to dispose of existing RCT generators and replace them with a new generator.**

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON KD4VOM
GARY MCADAMS WG7X
Acting Secretary
President

General Meeting
25 May 2011 MINUTES

The 25 May 2011 General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Gary McAdams WG7X called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President: Al Churchill AC7BU
Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer: Bob Purdom AD7LJ
Board: Frank Palmer -- AC7JY
Board: Nick Winter K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 46 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by President Gary WG7X

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and guests welcomed. There were several new calls.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Treasure's Report: The Field Day donation pig was circulated for contributions.

Correspondence: Larry KD4VOM reported recent membership renewals, a phone bill and a couple of e-mails on the membership meeting schedule topic.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE REPORT: John Clarke AC7WW

The Radio Club of Tacoma VE Team had a special testing session at West Pierce Fire and Rescue Station 21 in Lakewood on Sunday evening May 15, 2011. Testing followed a weekend Technician Class presented by Stephen AD7AB, Doug AD7AV, and Mike AD7TH

Twenty-six element twos were graded with nineteen being passed. Results of the session were nineteen new Technicians. Two candidates did not earn an upgrade.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Steve, AD7VL	Jan, K7HTU
Gregg, KF7BAO	Jon, AD7AW
Rich, KK7VH	Stephen, AD7AB
Shirley, N7QHW	Tom, N7QHX
Mike, AD7TH	

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

RCT Annual Kirkreit Picnic: Gary WG7X reminded all of the up coming annual Kirkreit Picnic at Spanaway Park one June 11th. There is now an admission fee to the park,

W7DK Field Day: Jay Leatham KD7DKY and Al Ferguson N7OMS reviewed Field Day Planning. Field Day will be at the Western Washington Hospital facility in Steilacoom again this year.

We have several stations signed up 80 Meters by Bill AD7QI; 40 Meters by Rich KR7W and Chuck AC7QN; 20 CW by RandyWB4SBP & Joe K7ZG; 20 Meters phone by Al N7OMS, Bruce W7EP, 10 Meters by Gary WG7X and Pete KK7QW; Reception by John AC7WW and XYL Connie; Kitchen Jan Gilbertson K7HTU; Rocket Launcher antenna team will be led by Diane Sim W7SIM; Charles K7UAN will be providing

the UHF/VHF station and the setup for the GOTA station – A station chief is needed for GOTA.

We need operators so sign up and join the fun. Please contact Al N7OMS or Jay KD7DY or Bruce WE7P if you can participate.

PROGRAM: **Frank AC7JY** provided part two of the ARVN "Stand Up for Standing Waves and Transmission Lines by Bill Hays DVD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meeting Refreshments: Maury W7OT again circulated the signup sheet for volunteers to take a month or two of the refreshment duties. The system is well organized, and easy to do.

HF Room Upgrade: Gary WG7X reminded all that there is an HF room upgrade planning team looking to expand and improve our HF operations. If interested or have ideas, let Gary WG7X or AL N7OMS know.

General Class: Joe K7ZG provided an overview of the upcoming General class to be held at the Clubhouse in June. Class will run six weeks from 2 June through 7 July on Thursday evenings starting at 6pm. Information is posted on www.w7dk.org

Extra Class Possibility: Larry K7LBD has been talking with Steve Blacksten AD7LV, who is trying to determine how many are interested in the Extra Class. If interested contact

CQ WPX Contest: Gary W7GX reminded all of this weekend's contest and noted that 20 meters has recently been open to Europe around this time daily

Technician Class: Gary WG7X reminded attendees of Steve Morton AD7AB's class the weekend of 11June.

SHOW AND TELL:

Rich KR7W Brought along a Wouxun dual band, 4 watt, 2 meter/220Mhz HT, made in China, and type accepted in the USA. Rich explained its features and capabilities which include a broadcast FM receiver, lithium battery and flashlight. Rich noted that the interior construction resembles similar Motorola types of equipment.

Rich KR7W also brought in a power line pin insulator and described its configuration and installation, which, when it becomes corroded, can arc and then becomes a common source of power line interference. Rich estimates that 80% of the unwanted radiation that comes from power lines can be traced to corrosion of and subsequent arcing due to the way the conductor wire is secured to the insulator by wrapping a tie wire around it.

TUNING AND TRAFFIC:

Leonard KA7NWF announced multiple state-side contacts, and especially his first DX with ON3 Slovak Republic, as well as contacts with ON6Austria and AJ5 Estonia on 25 watts.

10 Meters: Gary WG7X noted that 10 meters has been open recently and is a good low power band to try.

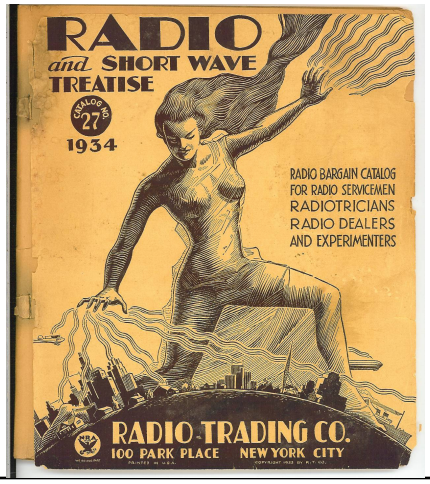
DOOR PRIZE: The pocket carabineer / screwdriver/ can opener device was won by Dick Diedrich KF7HQT

RAFFLE PRIZE: Tonight's Raffle prize, an AEA Isopole 2 Meter Antenna was won by Bob Hewlitt N7NCP

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary LARRY WATSON KD4VOM GARY MCADAMS WG7X
Secretary
President

www.arrl.org



CQ Field Day
W7DK Field Day for 2011
by Alan, N7OMS

ALAN N7OMS

Field Day 2011 is alive and going to happen in just a short while on June 24, 25, and 26.

So far, several Radio Club members have volunteered to provide shelters and equipment to make this years effort successful.

STATION LINE UP: At this point we have 80 meters provided by Bill Wright, 40 meters provided by Rich Patrick KR7W and Chuck Kemmer AC7QN, 20 meters CW provided by Randy Meyers WB4SPB and Joe Lester K7ZG, 20 meters SSB provide by Bob Purdom AD7LJ, Larry Watson, KD4VOM, Bruce Hansen WE7P, and myself Al N7OMS, Charles Smith KD7UAN will once again be manning a UHF and VHF station. Nick Winter K7MO has got a crew to do 15m CW, SSB. This combination of stations will combine to make W7DK a Class 5A.

Linda AB7YL operates 20 M SSB at FD 2008

Stop HERE First: John Clarke AC7WW and his wife Connie will be doing the meet and greet Information Station so members and visitors will be directed to their proper destination.

Food Support: Also Jan Gilbertson K7HTU and Larry Watson KD4VOM are working on a kitchen plan. I have talked to some others that are willing to help in the kitchen like Paul KE7WTK and Don KF7JEC.

Support: Diane Sims will be running the

W7DK FD volunteers place the Yagi on the Rocket Launcher military tower.

Rocket Launcher (military tower) erection and disassembly team. A few others have also been noted by Bruce WE7P, Jay KD7DKY and myself.

We are going to need more volunteer help with setup and breakdown as always. Contact numbers are at the end of this article.

Let's Operate: We are also going to need station operators. We want hams in front of the mics making contacts. As Jerry Seligman W7BUN (now SK, but was in charge of RCT's FD effort for many years) might say: *"keep the rate up, dammit".*

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Get New Hams OTA: I don't have any expectation about scoring but I would like to see a good level of focus and effort placed to get the club **O**n **T**he **A**ir this year.

I want to see our newer hams get on the air and the experienced hams to lead by example and mentoring. So bring your favorite CW keys and headsets and plan to spend some time burning up the airwaves for the Mighty W7DK.

The Rocket Launcher Tower and 20M Yagi bask in the nice sunrise on Sunday

Be Respectful: To make this Field Day successful, this year almost all of the equipment will be provided by club members. I want to make sure that everyone understands that it will be like going into these Hams homes and getting to use their rigs. We as club members need to vigilant about this and inform the visitors we bring with us that they understand this concept and respect the property of the station owner. We as members need to make sure everything is returned in the same condition it was brought in.

Housekeeping: This means that there will be no food or drinks around the equipment areas. Be sure that whatever items you bring into the station areas leaves with you. We also need to keep the grounds clean.

Safety: If you plan to bring young children or see young children around you be sure they are kept safe. As there will be many interesting things to see but touching some of them could cause harm. RF burns or hot generators can leave an unpleasant memory.

Leonard, KA7NWF operates the 40 meter SSB station.

Please Volunteer: If you wish to volunteer please contact Bruce, Jay or myself. We are sure that you will have a great time working together in this years Field Day and leave with some great Ham Radio memories while supporting your club.

Lastly: On a final note I am in the process of getting the library to purchase a special video program about a very interesting FD and hope to be showing it at a later meeting maybe the one just before FD.

FD Team Contact Info:

Alan, N7OMS n7oms@msn.com
Bruce, WE7P brucehanson@mail.com
Jay, KD7DKY, wulfmn4u2@yahoo.com

Find Phone numbers in the Club Roster.

RCT 95th Anniversary Celebration: by Al N7OMS

Hello fellow club members.

You may or may not know this but in October of this year 2011 the Radio Club of Tacoma will be 95 years young. So with that in mind just what are we gonna do to celebrate?

I have brought up the idea of having a dinner fund raiser at Joeseppi's Italian Ristorante. With the boards permission Bob Purdom, Andrew Quamme, Peter Baker and myself Al Ferguson went to Joeseppi's and met with him about his Ristorante Take-over. We got the details about the Take-over and about the restaurant.

At the June Board meeting I gave the information to the board and it was decided that we need a group to explore having an event to celebrate the 95th. We have many options before us and we even reserved October 16th 2011 which besides being "National Boss Day" the exact day of the clubs 95th birthday! And while I doubt I will celebrate National Boss Day I sure would like to help the Radio Club celebrate.

Here is the appeal. We need help to do this. I can do some of this but my Club plate is pretty full. We are going to need some leaders to come forward. We can make this real simple or we can do more. This is in the very early stages so we have some time but it will go fast and we need a good plan and people to follow thru. If you have an interest in this event please contact myself or the President Mr. Gary McAdams as we are both asking for your help.

RCT HAMFEST Signup Notice: 7 June2011

Greetings,

Hamfest is a Swapmeet, opportunity to consign, buy and sell equipment, conduct eyeball QSO's; promote amateur radio and the Radio Club of Tacoma.

This year marks the Radio Club of Tacoma's 43RD annual Hamfest.

For the Club volunteers, this year's event begins on the afternoon of Friday 12 August at 5 pm with the setup of tables and reception and unloading of Friday evening Vendors.
The Hamfest activity begins again Saturday morning at 6 am to handle early morning vendor check-ins and parking. At 9 am the Hamfest opens to the public at 9 am

It is time now to line up the jobs and volunteers that make The Radio Club of Tacoma Hamfest another RCT promotional event and financial success.

Hamfest tasks include admission and raffle ticket sales, Teardown and Setup, and possibly an overnight security depending on how the snack bar operation is set up.

At the 8 June general membership meeting tomorrow and likely again on June 22nd Larry KD4VOM will be handing out sign up sheets and answering questions.

The Club is actively seeking a Public Information/Club Promotion officer. If you have computer skills and writing skills, and want to jump in and promote this great hobby of ours, contact the Secretary, KD4VOM at royretreat@mailcan.com.
The ARRL has a cook book program which almost does the job for you, and we need to make our community aware of our activities and promote the hobby.

Larry Watson, KD4VOM, Secretary Radio Club of Tacoma and Hamfest Coordinator.

The Radio Club of Tacoma's Logger's Bark

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Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM royretreat at mailcan dot com
Treasurer: Bob Purdom lcdrbob at hotmail dot com

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma, INC.
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:

JUNE 2011 EVENTS

CLUB MEETINGS: Wednesdays June 8th and 22nd at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: Wednesday June 2nd 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Support our club: Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .